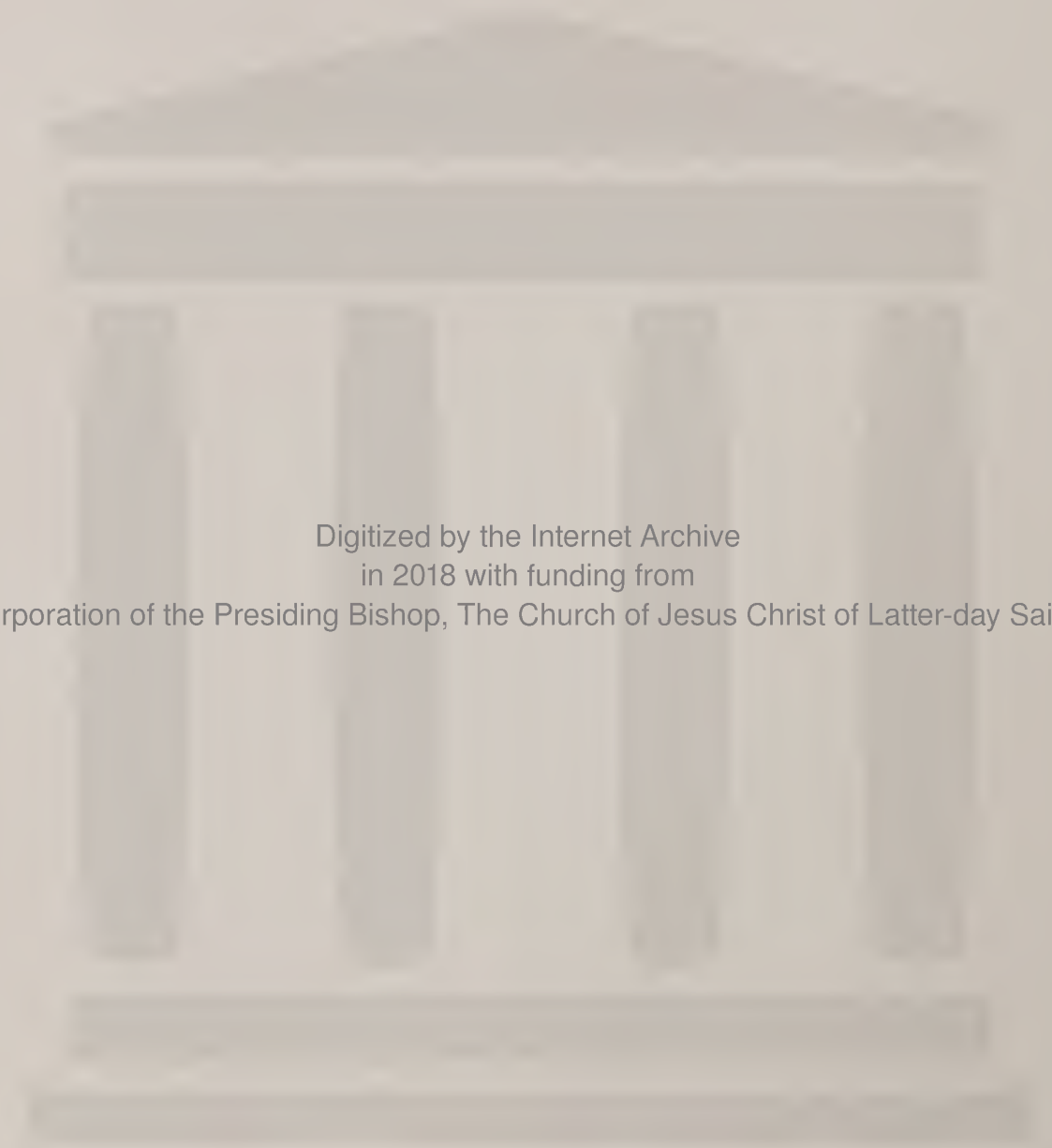

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RESEARCH OUTLINE

Missouri

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY™
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

This outline describes major sources of information about families from Missouri. As you read this outline, study the *United States Research Outline* (30972), which will help you understand terminology and the contents and uses of genealogical records.

RECORDS OF THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY™

The Family History Library has most of the records listed in this outline. The major holdings include land, probate, and vital records from all but two of the county courthouses in the state.

Some of the sources described in this outline list the Family History Library's book, microfilm, and microfiche numbers. These are preceded by *FHL,* the abbreviation for *Family History Library.* These numbers may be used to locate materials in the Family History Library and to order microfilm and microfiche at Family History Centers™.

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG™

The library's records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog™ found at the Family History Library and at each Family History Center. To find a record, look in the locality search of the Family History Library Catalog for:

- The *place* where your ancestor lived, such as:

  UNITED STATES - CENSUS RECORDS
  MISSOURI - MILITARY RECORDS
  MISSOURI, JACKSON - LAND AND PROPERTY
  MISSOURI, JACKSON, KANSAS CITY - CHURCH RECORDS

- The *record type* you want to search, such as:

  UNITED STATES - ***CENSUS RECORDS***
  MISSOURI - ***MILITARY RECORDS***
  MISSOURI, JACKSON - ***LAND AND PROPERTY***
  MISSOURI, JACKSON, KANSAS CITY - ***CHURCH RECORDS***

The section headings in this outline match the names of record types used in the Family History Library Catalog.

ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

The following archives, libraries, and societies have collections or services to assist genealogical researchers:

- Missouri State Archives
  600 West Main St.
  Jefferson City, MO 65102
  Telephone: 314-751-3280
  Fax: 573-526-7333

A helpful guide to the collection is *A Guide to the Missouri State Archives* (Jefferson City, Mo.: Missouri Secretary of State, 198-; not at FHL).

- National Archives—Central Plains Region (Kansas City)
  2312 East Bannister Road
  Kansas City, MO 64131
  Telephone: 816-926-6934
  Fax: 816-926-6235

- Missouri State Genealogical Association
  P.O. Box 833
  Columbia, MO 65205-0833
  Telephone: 816-747-9330

- State Historical Society of Missouri
  1020 Lowry
  Columbia, MO 65201-7298
  Telephone: 573-882-7083
  Fax: 573-884-4950

- Missouri Historical Society Library and Research Center
  Jefferson Memorial Building
  255 South Shrinker Forest Park
  St. Louis, MO 63112-0040
  Telephone: 314-746-4599
  Fax: 314-746-4548

  Mailing Address:
  Missouri Historical Society Library and Research Center
  P.O. Box 11940
  St. Louis, MO 63112-0040

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A helpful guide to the society's collection is Beverly D. Bishop and Janice L. Fox, *A List of Manuscript Collections in the Archives of the Missouri Historical Society* (St. Louis: Missouri Historical Society, 1982; FHL book 977.8 A3b).

- St. Louis Public Library
  History and Genealogy Department
  1301 Olive Street
  St. Louis, MO 63103-2389
  Telephone: 314-241-2288
  Fax: 314-539-0393

For further information see George Gambrill, *Genealogical Material and Local Histories in the St. Louis Public Library*, Rev. ed. (St. Louis: St. Louis Public Library, 1965; FHL book 977.866 A3s; film 928060 items 7-8, 1965/66 catalog and 1971 supplement).

- Kansas City Public Library
  Heart of America Genealogical Society
  311 East 12th Street
  Kansas City, MO 64106-2454
  Telephone: 816-221-2685
  Fax: 816-421-7484
- Mid-Continent Public Library
  15616 East Highway 24
  Independence, MO 64050
  Telephone: 816-836-5200
  Fax: 816-521-7253

The Mid-Continent Public Library shares its genealogical materials through interlibrary loan.

To learn more about the history, record keeping, and available records of Missouri counties, use the 15 inventories of the county archives published by the Historical Records Survey around 1940. The Family History Library has copies of most of these inventories.

You should also be aware that records kept at the state capitol were lost by fires in 1837 and 1911. Several counties in Missouri have also lost records due to fire, war, and other destruction.

Computer Networks and Bulletin Boards

Computers with modems can be useful tools for obtaining information from selected archives and libraries. In a way, computer networks themselves serve as a library. The Internet, certain computer bulletin boards, and commercial on-line services help family history researchers:

- Locate other researchers
- Post queries
- Send and receive e-mail
- Search large databases
- Search computer libraries
- Join in computer chat and lecture sessions

You can find computerized research tips and information about ancestors from Missouri in a variety of sources at local, state, national, and international levels. The list of sources is growing rapidly. Most of the information is available at no cost.

Addresses on the Internet change frequently. As of April 1997, the following sites are important gateways linking you to many more network and bulletin board sites:

- USGenWeb
  http://www.usgenweb.com/
  A cooperative effort by many volunteers to list genealogical databases, libraries, bulletin boards, and other resources available on the Internet for each county, state, and country.
- Roots-L
  http://www.rootsweb.com/roots-l/usa/
  A useful list of sites and resources. Includes a large, regularly-updated research coordination list.

For further details about using computer networks, bulletin boards, and news groups for family history research, see the *United States Research Outline* (30972), 2nd ed., "Archives and Libraries" section.

FamilySearch®

The Family History Library and some Family History Centers have computers with FamilySearch®. FamilySearch is a collection of computer files containing several million names. FamilySearch is a good place to begin your research. Some of the records come from compiled sources; some have been automated from original sources.

Computers with FamilySearch do *not* have access to computer on-line services, networks, or bulletin boards. However, those services are available at many public libraries, college libraries, and private locations.

BIBLE RECORDS

The *Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Collection* contains some volumes of Missouri Bible records. (See the "Genealogy" section of this outline). It is partially indexed in E. Kay Kirkham, *An Index to Some of the Bibles and Family Records of the United States,* vol. 2 (Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, 1984; FHL book 973 D22kk v.2; fiche 6089184).

Some Bible records are also found in genealogical periodicals. Another source of published Bible records is Elizabeth Prather Ellsberry, *Bible Records of Missouri,* 8 vols. in 3 (Chillicothe, Mo.: E. P. Ellsberry, [1963-65]; FHL book 977.8 V29e; film 873910, fiche 6051119; 3 additional volumes published in 1968 are in FHL book 977.8 V29L and FHL films 873911 items 4-5 and 851115 item 18).

BIOGRAPHY

Most of the archives mentioned above have collections of published biographical information. The public libraries in St. Louis and Kansas City also have good collections. Also search the biographical sections of statewide, regional, and county histories.

The Family History Library has a large collection of biographical sources. Selected volumes are on FHL films 1000272-79, including Howard Louis Conrad, *Encyclopedia of the History of Missouri, a Compendium of History and Biography for Ready Reference* (New York: Southern History Co., 1901; FHL book 977.8 H2c; films 1000272-73; fiche 6051492).

CEMETERIES

The *Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Collection* contains tombstone inscriptions from many Missouri cemeteries. (See the "Genealogy" section of this outline). Many transcripts of cemetery records have been published, such as:

Ellsberry, Elizabeth P. *Cemetery Records of Missouri.* 3 vols. N.p.: 1965. (FHL book 977.8 V22d; film 844967; fiche 6051170.)

Cemetery Records of Missouri. 15 vols. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society, 1954-64. (FHL book 977.8 V22g; films 924436-39 and 924900 item 3; fiche 6051114 vols. 1-15.)

Missouri Cemetery Records. Vol. 1. Kansas City, Mo.: Heart of America Genealogical Society & Library, 1981. (FHL book 977.8 V3m v.1; fiche 6101174, vol.1.) This volume is a reprint of inscriptions from 26 Missouri counties published in the *Kansas City Genealogist* (see the "Periodicals" section of this outline).

196 Cemeteries of Missouri. 3 vols. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society: 1948-68. (FHL film 1035921.)

CENSUS

Federal

Many federal census records are found at the Family History Library, State Historical Society of Missouri, the National Archives, and other federal and state archives. The *United States Research Outline* provides more detailed information about these records.

The Family History Library has the U.S. federal censuses of Missouri from 1830 to 1920. The 1890 census was destroyed. The 1890 Union veterans schedule and published index are available at the Family History Library and at the National Archives. The 90,000 names in the index include some Confederate soldiers.

Statewide indexes are available for the 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860, and 1870 censuses in book format. Separate published indexes for many counties are also available for 1860. Soundex (phonetic) indexes are available on microfilm for part of the 1880 census and all of the 1900, 1910, and 1920 censuses.

Mortality schedules (lists of deaths during the year preceding the census) exist for 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880. The State Historical Society of Missouri has these records. Copies of the schedules and indexes for 1850, 1860, and 1870 (counties A-L) are available at the Family History Library.

Territorial and State

A few Spanish censuses were taken as early as 1772. Portions of Missouri were included in the 1810 census of Louisiana Territory. Missouri Territory took censuses in 1814, 1817, 1819, and 1820. The 1820 census was destroyed, but tax and vital records have been published as a substitute.

The state of Missouri took censuses in 1821, at four-year intervals from 1824 to 1863, and in 1876. The 1876 census, available for 10 counties, is the most complete. It lists only the heads of households. Most of the other schedules have been destroyed. Copies of the portions that remain are available at the State Historical Society of Missouri, the Family History Library, and the Missouri State Archives, and in some local county offices.

CHURCH RECORDS

Roman Catholic churches were established in Missouri in the colonial era. Records for St. Louis, for example, date from 1765. Many other denominations came after 1800 with the arrival of various immigrant groups. By 1900 the largest religious groups in Missouri were the Roman Catholic, Baptist, Christian (Disciples of Christ), and Methodist Episcopal (now United Methodist).

The Family History Library has some collections of church records for Missouri, including Catholic, Baptist, and Presbyterian records. These include a unique collection of 13 films of alphabetized parish register transcripts from the Catholic Archdiocese of Kansas City for the years 1830 to 1900.

For information on church records see *Guide to Vital Statistics: Church Records in Missouri* (Washington, D.C.: Historical Records Survey, 1942; not at FHL) at the Library of Congress.

Many denominations have collected their records into central repositories. You can write to the following for more information about their records.

Baptist

Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives
901 Commerce St., Suite 400
Nashville, TN 37203-3630
Telephone: 615-244-0344
Fax: 615-782-4821

Missouri Baptist Historical Commission
William Jewell College
500 College Hill
Liberty, MO 64068
Telephone: 816-781-7700 ext.5468
Fax: 816-415-5027

American Baptist Historical Society
1106 South Goodman Street
Rochester, NY 14620-2532
Telephone: 716-473-1740

An inventory of some Missouri Baptist records at the American Baptist Historical Society is *Records of American Baptists in Missouri and Related Organizations* (Rochester, NY: American Baptist Historical Society, 1982; FHL book 977.8 K2ab).

Christian

Disciples of Christ Historical Society
1101 19th Avenue S
Nashville, TN 37212-2196
Telephone: 615-327-1444
Fax: 615-327-1445

Methodist

United Methodist Archives
Central Methodist College Library
411 Central Methodist Square
Fayette, MO 65248
Telephone: 816-248-3391 ext. 292
Fax: 816-248-3045

Centenary United Methodist Church
55 Plaza Square
16th & Pine Street
St Louis, MO 63103
Telephone: 314-421-3136
Fax: 314-421-4625

Commission on Archives and History
United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 127
36 Madison Avenue
Madison, NJ 07940
Telephone: 201-408-3590
Fax: 201-408-3909

A useful history is Richard A. Seaton, *History of the United Methodist Churches of Missouri* (Missouri: Missouri Methodist Historical Society, 1984; FHL book 977.8 K2hs).

Roman Catholic

Archives of the Archdiocese of St. Louis
4445 Lindell Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63108-2497
Telephone: 314-533-1887
Fax: 314-533-1889

COURT RECORDS

Major Missouri courts that kept records of genealogical value include the following:

Circuit courts are countywide courts with jurisdiction over criminal and civil matters.

Courts of common pleas were countywide courts that existed in some counties before the 1880s. They had jurisdiction over minor civil and criminal matters.

Magistrate courts have citywide jurisdiction over minor criminal offenses and some small claims.

National Archives—Central Plains Region (Kansas City) has U.S. circuit and district court records dating from 1820. The Family History Library has microfilmed many Missouri court records in each county. The library also has a few records from the French and Spanish era for 1766 to 1816 (FHL films 1005424-6).

For more information about federal court records, see William D. White, *Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the United States Courts for the Western District of Missouri*, (Kansas City, Mo.: Federal Records Center, 1969; FHL book 977.8 A1 no. 85; film 982261 item 21).

DIRECTORIES

Directories of heads of households have been published for major cities of Missouri. For example, the Family History Library has:

- St. Louis
  1821-60 . . . . . FHL fiche 6044444-62
  1863-1935 . . . . . FHL films 1377473-506
  1917, 1942, etc. . . . FHL book 977.975/S1 E4p
- Kansas City
  1860-61 . . . . . FHL fiche 6044015
  1865-1935 . . . . . FHL films 1376961-73
  1970, 1975, etc. . . . FHL book 978.139/K1 E4p

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

A few thousand French settlers remained in the area after the United States bought Missouri as part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, but most prestatehood settlers were Americans of English and Ulster Scots origin. They came mainly from the Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. Settlement spread up the river valleys into central Missouri by the 1820s and into western Missouri by the 1830s. Mormon immigrants settled western Missouri in 1831 but were driven from the state in 1839.

Both the Santa Fe Trail and the Oregon Trail began at Independence, Missouri. Many Missourians followed these trails westward to California, Texas, Oregon, Colorado, Oklahoma, and Kansas. In spite of this emigration from the state, Missouri was the fifth most populous state in the United States at the close of the Civil War.

Overseas immigration to Missouri began in earnest in the 1830s when large numbers of Germans began to settle the farm country west of St. Louis and south of the Missouri River known as the "Missouri Rhineland." Beginning in the 1840s German and Irish immigrants settled in urban centers. After 1880, St. Louis and Kansas City attracted groups of Italians, Greeks, Poles, and east European Jews.

An especially helpful description of settlement patterns in Missouri is in Milton D. Rafferty, *Historical Atlas of Missouri* (Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1982; FHL book 977.8 E7r).

Before the Civil War the Ohio-Mississippi-Missouri river system was the major migration route to Missouri. New Orleans was the favorite port of entry for early German immigrants to Missouri. After the war, most settlers came by railroad through the lower midwestern states. To find an immigrant ancestor, you may want to check ship passenger lists for East Coast ports and for the Port of New Orleans. More detailed information on immigration sources is in the *United States Research Outline.*

GAZETTEERS

Several helpful guides to place names in Missouri have been published, including:

Beck, Lewis Caleb. *Gazetteer of the States of Illinois and Missouri.* 1823. Reprint. New York: Arno Press, 1975. (FHL book 977 E5b; film 1036690 item 6; fiche 6010063.)

Campbell, Robert Allen. *Campbell's Gazetteer of Missouri.* St. Louis: Campbell, 1875. (FHL film 897468.)

Wetmore, Alphonso. *Gazetteer of the State of Missouri.* 1837. Reprint. New York: Arno Press, 1975. (FHL book 977.8 E5w; film 1036690 item 7.)

GENEALOGY

Most archives, historical societies, and genealogical societies have special collections and indexes of genealogical value. For example, the St. Louis Public Library has a card index to published genealogies in books and periodicals. Such collections must usually be searched in person.

A significant manuscript collection is the *Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Collection.* This collection consists of transcripts of Bible, cemetery, church, marriage, death, obituary, and will records. It was microfilmed in 1971 at the DAR Library in Washington, D.C., and is also available at the St. Louis Public Library and on 57 films at the Family History Library (FHL films 870004--.) The volumes are generally arranged by county, and many have individual indexes.

Some major published collections of genealogical material for Missouri include:

Hodges, Nadine, and Audrey L. Woodruff. *Missouri Pioneers: County and Genealogical Records.* 30 vols. Independence: Woodruff, 1967-76. (FHL book 977.8 D2h; vols. 1-7 on films 496617-18 and 823774 item 5.)

Woodruff, Mrs. Howard W. *Missouri Miscellany: Statewide Missouri Genealogical Records.* 16 vols. Independence: Woodruff, 1976-84. (FHL book 977.8 D2w.)

Bryan, William Smith, and Robert Rose. *A History of the Pioneer Families of Missouri. . .* St. Louis: Bryan, Brand & Co., 1876. (FHL book 977.8 D2b; film 823561; index on film 001296 item 5.)

HISTORY

The following important events in the history of Missouri affected political boundaries, record keeping, and family movements.

1735 French lead miners established the first permanent white settlement at Sainte Genevieve.

1763 France ceded the Missouri area to Spain. French fur traders founded St. Louis in 1764.

1800 Spain returned the region to France.

1803 France sold Missouri to the United States as part of the Louisiana Purchase. Missouri was part of the Louisiana Territory after 1805.

1812 Congress created the Missouri Territory. Many families left after earthquakes and other disasters.

1821 Missouri became a state.

1837 The Platte Purchase added six northwestern counties to the state.

1861-1865 During the Civil War most of the citizens supported the Union, although several counties seceded. Troops from Missouri served in both the Confederate and the Union forces.

Major research centers have histories of the state and its counties. An especially helpful source for studying the history of Missouri before statehood is Louis Houck, *A History of Missouri from the Earliest Explorations and Settlements until the Admission of the State into the Union,* 3 vols. (Chicago: R. R. Donnelley, 1908; FHL book 977.8 H2h; vols. 1-2 on film 1697679 items 2-3; vol. 3 on film 1320710).

For a list of published county histories, see Paul O. Selby, *A Bibliography of Missouri County Histories and Atlases,* 2d ed. (Kirksville, Mo.: Northeast Missouri State Teachers College, 1966; FHL book 977.8 A1 No. 145).

LAND AND PROPERTY

Claims to French and Spanish Grants

In the early 1800s many land claims were filed as Missouri residents tried to document claims to lands previously granted by the French and Spanish. In 1805, the U.S. Congress established a Board of Commissioners to confirm earlier grants.

Some of these records have been published in sources such as the *American State Papers.* An index to the claims made from 1795 to 1812 is on FHL film 984777. The names in the *American State Papers* (on microfilm at the Family History Library) have also been published in:

McMullin, Phillip, ed. *Grassroots of America.* Salt Lake City: Gendex Co., 1972. (FHL book 973 R2ag index; fiche 6051323.)

First Settlers of the Missouri Territory. 2 vols. Nacogdoches, Tex.: Ericson Books, 1983. (FHL book 977.8 R2f.)

Land claims have been explained and documented in:

"Private Land Claims in Missouri", in State Historical Society of Missouri *Missouri Historical Review.* Columbia, Mo.: The Society; Vol. 50, p. 132-44. (FHL book 977.8 B2mr.)

Missouri Land Claims. New Orleans: Polyanthos, 1976. (FHL book 977.8 R2m; film 1036517 item 2.) This volume is a reprint of the 1835 *Congressional Report*, and has land claims for 1796-1835.

Federal Land Grants

After the United States obtained possession of the area that became Missouri, land was surveyed and distributed through eight federal land offices, the earliest of which opened in 1818. The General Land Office in Washington, D.C., also distributed many of the state's public domain lands between 1818 and 1922. This process has been explained in Gary W. Beahan, *Missouri's Public Domain: United States Land Sales, 1818-1922* (Jefferson City: Records Management and Archives Services, 1980; FHL book 977.8 R2mi).

Records of the local land offices are in the Missouri State Archives. Tract books, plat maps, and land patents are in:

Bureau of Land Management Eastern States Office
7450 Boston Blvd.
Springfield, VA 22153
Telephone: 703-440-1600
Fax: 703-440-1609

War of 1812 bounty land warrants were also issued for Missouri lands. The Family History Library has copies of the warrants and their indexes (FHL films 983163-77). Homestead records for the 1860s and later years are at the National Archives.

Many additional documents dealing with early land transfers are available at the Family History Library:

- Record books, 1795 to 1808
- U.S. land patents, 1800s to early 1900s
- Tax deeds, 1847 to 1878
- Miscellaneous land records in French, Spanish, and English, 1700s to 1800s
- Swamp land records for the 1800s
- Land plats and index for the 1800s
- General Land Office sales, 1818 to 1903

County Land Records

After land was transferred to private ownership, subsequent transactions have been kept by the county recorders of deeds. The Family History Library has copies of most pre-1900 deeds from each county courthouse. From St. Louis County, for example, the library has over 900 microfilms of deeds and indexes for 1804 to 1901. Additional land records may be obtained from the Missouri State Archives and the various county courthouses.

MAPS

Atlases that can aid your research are:

Campbell, Robert Allen. *Campbell's New Atlas of Missouri.* St. Louis: N.p., n.d. (FHL film 989447 item 2.)

Rafferty, Milton D. *Historical Atlas of Missouri.* Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1981. (FHL book 977.8 E7r; film 1598423 item 4.)

City ward maps of Kansas City (1884, 1888, and 1890) and St. Louis (1859, 1870, 1882, and 1891) are on FHL film 1377700; fiche 6016664-6 (Kansas City), fiche 6016759-62 (St. Louis). These can help you determine the ward of residence for census searches.

Large collections of maps and atlases are available at the University of Missouri, St. Louis Public Library, and St. Louis University. A helpful guide is Paul D. Selby, *Bibliography of Missouri County Histories and Atlases,* 2d ed. (Kirksville, Mo.: Northeast Missouri State Teachers College, 1966; FHL book 977.8 A1 No. 145).

MILITARY RECORDS

Many military records are found at the Family History Library, the National Archives, and other federal and state archives. The *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118) provides more information on the federal military records and search strategies.

For Missouri the following sources are also very helpful. Most are available at:

Office of the Adjutant General
1717 Industrial Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Copies of many of the records are at the Family History Library and the St. Louis Public Library.

Revolutionary War (1775-1783)

An alphabetical list of soldiers, their birth dates, death dates, and military service is Alice Kinyoun Houts, *Revolutionary Soldiers Buried in Missouri* ([Kansas City, Mo.: Houts, 1966]; FHL book 977.8 M2ha).

War of 1812 (1812-1815)

Bounty land in Arkansas, Illinois, and Missouri was issued to soldiers who served in the War of 1812. Copies of the bounty land warrants are on 14 films at the Family History Library. The names of Missouri patentees are indexed on FHL film 983163. The records provide the name of the soldier and his rank, unit, date of warrant, and the date the land was located.

Civil War (1861-1865)

Missouri soldiers served in both the Union and the Confederate armies. Indexes to the service records are available at the Family History Library. The federal service records are available at the National Archives.

Pension records of Confederate veterans and soldier's home admission applications are alphabetized and available on FHL films 1021101-27 and at the Missouri Adjutant General's office. The Family History Library has an index to the Union army pensions, but the actual files are only at the National Archives.

The Adjutant General's office has state records of volunteers and state militia (FHL films 1021080-98), including descriptive muster rolls and enlistment and discharge rolls.

A special 1890 census of Union veterans is at the National Archives and on FHL films 338186-93. A published index to this census is available.

Spanish-American War (1898)

In addition to the federal records, the Missouri Adjutant General's office has muster rolls and an index to volunteers (FHL films 1021099-100).

World War I (1917-1918)

The Missouri Adjutant General's office has service files and bonus application papers. The latter often contain family information.

World War I draft registration cards for men age 18 to 45 may list address, birth date, birthplace, race, nationality, citizenship, and next of kin. Not all registrants served in the war. For registration cards for Missouri see:

United States. Selective Service System. Missouri, *World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918.* National Archives Microfilm Publications, M1509. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1987-1988. (On FHL films beginning with 1683089—.)

To find an individual's draft card, it helps to know his name and residence at the time of registration. The cards are arranged alphabetically by county, within the county by draft board, and then alphabetically by surname within each draft board.

Most counties had only one board; large cities had several. A map showing the boundaries of individual draft boards is available for most large cities. Finding an ancestor's street address in a city

directory will help you in using the draft board map. There is an alphabetical list of cities that are on the map. For a copy of this map see:

United States. Selective Service System. *List of World War One Draft Board Maps*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives. (FHL film 1498803.)

Additional Records

The Family History Library has 214 microfilms of records in various collections created by the Missouri Adjutant General's office for service in the War of 1812, Black Hawk War, Seminole War, Mormon War, Heatherly War, Iowa War, Mexican War, and Civil War. The records include burial information, state militia rolls, and county enrollments.

NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

Naturalization records have been filed primarily in the circuit courts. In earlier years naturalization information was included in the minutes and order books of various courts along with other court matters. Eventually the papers were kept in separate volumes with indexes. You may obtain copies of declarations, petitions, and certificates by contacting the clerk's office in each county courthouse.

The Family History Library has copies of the records for some counties in the state. For St. Louis, for example, the library has 17 microfilms of an index to naturalizations from the Circuit Court for 1840 to 1906.

After 1906, most records are under the jurisdiction of a U.S. district court. If you need naturalization records after that date, contact a federal office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service or the National Archives—Central Plains Region (Kansas City). The Archives maintains records from the U.S. Eastern District Court, 1907 to 1941, and the Western District Court, 1906 to 1924.

NEWSPAPERS

The State Historical Society of Missouri has a major collection of newspapers. In the collection are Missouri newspapers from about 1800, and card indexes by name and subject to some of the early papers. The Society and the Family History Library also have several published abstracts and indexes of obituaries and marriages from 1808 to 1870.

To locate newspapers, use William H. Taft, *Missouri Newspapers, When and Where, 1808-1963* (Columbia: University of Missouri, 1964; FHL book 977.8 B3t).

PERIODICALS

The major genealogical periodicals and magazines helpful for Missouri research are—

Kansas City Genealogist. 1960-. Published by the Heart of America Genealogical Society and Library, c/o Kansas City Public Library, 311 E. 12th St., Kansas City, MO 64106-2412. (FHL book 977.841 B2g; fiche 6010733-60, vols. 1-28.)

Missouri Miscellany: Statewide Missouri Genealogical Records. 1973-84. 17 vols. Published by Mrs. Howard W. Woodruff, Independence, MO. (FHL book 977.8 D2w.)

Missouri Pioneers: County and Genealogical Records. 1967-76. 30 vols. Published by Nadine Hodges & Mrs. Howard W. Woodruff, Independence, MO. (FHL book 977.8 D2h; vols. 1-2 on film 496617 items 8-9; vols. 3-6 on film 496618; vol. 7 on film 823774 item 5.)

Ozar' Kin: The People who Settled the Missouri Ozarks. 1979-. Published by the Ozarks Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 3945, Springfield, MO 65808-3945 (FHL book 977.8 D25o.)

Pioneer Times. 1977-1993. Published by the Mid-Missouri Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 715, Jefferson City, MO 65102. (FHL book 977.8 B2p; fiche 6333987-95, vols. 1-9.)

The Prairie Gleaner. 1969-. Published by the West Central Missouri Genealogical Society and Library, 705 Broad Street, Warrensburg, MO 64093-2032. (FHL book 977.84 B2p.)

St. Louis Genealogical Society Quarterly. 1968-. Published by the St. Louis Genealogical Society, 1695 So. Brentwood Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63144. (FHL book 977.865 B2q; vols. 1-2 on film 1698206 item 16; vols. 1-27 and an index to vols. 11-20 on films 1698209-10.)

A helpful index to subjects in 13 periodicals is Robert L. Grover, *Missouri Genealogical Periodical Index: A County Guide, 1960-1982* (Independence: Missouri Territory Pioneers, 1983; FHL book 977.8 B22g).

PROBATE RECORDS

Probate matters in Missouri have usually been recorded by the clerks of the probate courts, but in some counties the common pleas or circuit courts handled this function. The records include wills, administrator bonds, and estate inventories. They are frequently indexed. You can obtain copies by contacting the probate judge in each county.

Copies of many of the records are available at the Family History Library. The library's records generally date from the creation of the county to about 1925. For example, the library has 71 films for Jackson County that include:

- Wills and other records (1828-1917)
- Bonds (1868-1923)
- Letters (1876-1955)
- Guardians' records (1871-1898)
- Inventories (1881-1915)
- Real estate sales (1890-1918)

For many counties, abstracts of the earliest wills have been published, and copies are available at major archives and the Family History Library.

TAXATION

Many tax assessment books of Missouri counties have been preserved. The original records are generally at the county courthouses. Some of these are on microfilm at the Family History Library. For example, the library has Osage County tax books for 1844, 1856 to 1862, and 1865.

VITAL RECORDS

County and City Records of Births and Deaths

Statewide registration of births and deaths began in 1863, but registration was not compulsory. Missouri has required registration in each county only during the years 1883 to 1893 and since 1909. The state did not achieve 90 percent registration of births until 1927 and of deaths until 1911.

Write to the appropriate county clerk for records before 1910. Those from 1883 to 1893 are also available from the Missouri State Archives.

The Family History Library has copies of most of the existing civil vital records in Missouri from about 1883 to the early 1900s. For example, records of Jefferson County births, stillbirths, and deaths from 1883 to 1892 are available.

For St. Louis city records from 1870 to the present, write to:

Division of Health
634 No. Grand Boulevard
P.O. Box 14702
St. Louis, MO 63178
Telephone: 314-658-1132

The library also has 16 microfilms of the registers of the St. Louis City Hospital for 1846 to 1900.

State Records of Births and Deaths

Although the files are not open for public inspection, you can obtain copies of the state's births and deaths registered after 1 January 1910 by writing to:

Bureau of Vital Records
P.O. Box 570
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0570
Telephone: 314-761-6387 (births)
Telephone: 314-751-6376 (deaths)

The current fees for obtaining copies of the state's records are listed in *Where to Write for Vital Records: Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Divorces* (Hyattsville, Md.: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, March 1993. (FHL book 973 V24wv.) Copies of this booklet are at the Family History Library and many Family History Centers.

Marriage Records

Marriage records have been kept by Missouri county clerks from the earliest days of each county. Some records date from the early 1800s when the area was a territory without counties. Statewide registration of marriage began in 1881, and the files are mostly complete after that date. You can obtain copies of these documents from the various county clerks.

The Family History Library has copies of marriage records from each county. These often date to the 1920s. For St. Louis, for example, the library has 147 microfilms from the city recorder (index for 1806-1965, records from 1808-1920, licenses from 1881-1966), and 14 films from the county recorder (index for 1877-1928, licenses from 1881-1933). The Missouri State Archives has copies of the same films available at the Family History Library.

Most pre-1850 marriages in Missouri have been transcribed in publications such as the following:

Brooks, Linda Barber. *Missouri Marriages to 1850.* 3 vols. St. Louis: Ingmire Pub., 1983-. (FHL book 977.8 V2bm.)

Ormesher, Susan. *Missouri Marriages Before 1840.* Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1982. (FHL book 9777.8 V2o; fiche 6051425.)

The Bureau of Vital Records (see address above) has an index to marriage records from July 1948 to the present.

Divorce Records

Divorce proceedings have been filed with a court of common pleas, a circuit court, or the state legislature. Most divorce records can be obtained by contacting the appropriate circuit court clerk in the county where the plaintiff resided. The Family History Library has some of these court records, which include divorce information. The Bureau of

Vital Records has divorce records from 1948 to the present.

A published list of early divorce records is Lois Stanley, *Divorces and Separations in Missouri, 1808-1853.* Missouri: 198-. (FHL book 977.8 P2sd.) This volume includes notices from newspapers.

Inventory of Vital Records

To learn more about the history and availability of vital records, see *Guide to Public Vital Statistics Records in Missouri* (St. Louis: Historical Records Survey, 1941; FHL book 977.8 V2h; film 928021 item 10).

FOR FURTHER READING

For more detailed information about research and records of Missouri, see:

Parkin, Robert E. *Guide to Tracing Your Family Tree in Missouri*. St. Louis: Genealogical Research and Productions, 1979. (FHL book 977.8 D27pr.) This guide lists the published and microfilmed records available for each county.

Eichholz, Alice, ed. *Ancestry's Red Book: American State, County, and Town Sources.* Rev. ed. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1992. (FHL book 973 D27rb 1992; computer number 594021.) Contains bibliographies and background information on history and ethnic groups. Also contains maps and tables showing when each county was created.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Family History Library welcomes additions and corrections that will improve future editions of this outline. Please send your suggestions to:

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We appreciate the archivists, librarians, and others who have reviewed this outline and shared helpful information.

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